

CONFIDENTIAL

Country (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

Topic Erfurt/Bindersleben Airfield

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DATE PREPARED 6 Mar 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Beginning in January 1952, the construction equipment kept at the Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield during the winter was removed. In February, about 50 Germans were employed at the field, mainly on demolition and clearing work. In early April, 72 families were given short notice to evacuate the former officer's houses which they occupied. By 10 April, about 100 Soviet Air Force soldiers, 8 trucks, 2 prime movers and 5 steel rollers had arrived. On 11, 14, 18 and 20 April, Soviet soldiers were observed unloading two railroad cars each loaded with black corrugated sheet metal sections, 200 x 50 cm. [redacted] four railroad carloads of corrugated sheet metal were unloaded on one of the days mentioned. The material was piled up at the northern and southern edges of the field.

2. On 19 January, [redacted] leveling work at the field was completed. About 50 workers were employed at the installation. Low wooden buildings and wooden sheds in addition to 160 dump trucks and field railroad equipment were observed at the field. The buildings were lighted at night. On 7 March, the construction equipment was no longer seen. The damaged buildings in the southern portion of the field were being demolished. A large pile of wooden boxes 200 x 40 x 30 cm were piled up in the middle of the field. A Soviet labor detail of about 20 men was quartered in the vicinity of the installation. [redacted] the Russians were engaged in repairing lines and cables at the field.

3. [redacted] it was learned that ammunition was stored in the wooden sheds of the Daunton firm from Jena which had been erected at the field. \*

- \* [redacted] Comment. The report shows that the construction equipment was removed from the Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield in early 1952. The field had been enlarged and leveled in 1951. The soldiers and building equipment which reportedly arrived on 10 April 1952 indicate an imminent continuation of construction work there. [redacted] the soldiers who arrived at the field by rail belong to an air force construction battalion located at the Hindenburg Kaserne in Leipzig.

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